

Gateway

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NEWS

PH.D. PLANNING AT UNO

Chancellor Del Weber announced Wednesday that authorization has been given to begin planning for UNO's first doctoral programs, which are being considered in social work, criminal justice, gerontology and public administration. Cooperative programs are also being looked into. "I've opened the doors," Weber said.

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TOO FANCY OR JUST RIGHT?

UNO's proposed Fine Arts Building faces another hurdle at Saturday's University of Nebraska Board of Regents meeting. Regent Robert Allen has said the proposed structure is too fancy and a waste of taxpayers' money, while Regent John Payne and College of Fine Arts Dean David Shrader have come out in support of the design. Will the Fine Arts Building finally become a reality?

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OPTIONS

ESCAPE TO THE UNITED STATES

Since 1971, more than 400,000 refugees have fled from Vietnam to the United States. Lu Luoung left his home and family in 1980 to fulfill a dream. His story is one of thousands that came out of Southeast Asia in the last 20 years.

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SPORTS

DENNEY KNOWS WRESTLING

Despite an illustrious coaching career at UNO, Mike Denney has yet to be crowned with the national championship. But that's not his goal. Denney said he wants his athletes to concentrate on performing well, that's all. The wins, titles, and championships will fall into place. And for Denney, they have.

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COVER PHOTO BY
TED CASEY SCHLAEBITZ

BEHIND THE LENS



Sitting in his 17th and Vinton streets studio, artistic photographer Larry Ferguson sifts through photos of Norman Geske, former director of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln's Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

Larry Ferguson said *making* a picture is much more than *taking* a picture. Ferguson combines the craft of photography with elements of the arts. He said "visual thought" is as relevant to photographic success as the simple mechanics of pushing the button. Acutely observing detail has become a way of life for this 35-year-old artist. Since his days as a farm boy in Maxwell, Neb., Ferguson said he "always did look at things differently." And that difference has become his trademark. The world according to Ferguson offers detailed insight on stoplights, coffee cups, cars and *Playboy* women on page 5.

UNO to plan doctoral programs

By GREG KOZOL

Chancellor Del Weber has "opened the doors" for UNO's first doctoral-level programs.

At Wednesday's Faculty Senate Meeting, Weber announced authorization has been given to begin planning doctoral programs at UNO.

"I've done what I could do to facilitate the programs," Weber said. "I've opened the doors."

Weber said Martin Massengale, University of Nebraska interim president, determined UNO's role and mission policy provides authority to plan doctoral programs.

Weber mentioned social work, gerontology, criminal justice, public administration and educational administration as possible doctoral degrees.

The doctoral programs will be based on UNO's areas of statewide responsibility or on Omaha's needs, Weber said.

UNO's areas of statewide responsibility include public administration, gerontology, criminal justice and social work, Weber said.

Because of UNO's statewide teaching, research and service in the four areas, doctoral programs could be offered without duplicating the efforts of other campuses, Weber said.

"No university meets the need," he said. "We feel there is a strong need in this case."

However, Weber said UNO's first doctoral program may be a joint educational administration degree with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I really believe we've hammered out an agreement that can be a model," Weber said. "I think we have a lot to gain with collaborative programs."

UNO needs to pursue joint doctoral programs with UNL and the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Weber said.

"Sharing of resources seems to make a good deal of sense," Weber said. "We don't have the resources to develop programs on our own."

After the planning stage, the doctoral programs must pass through university procedure, Weber said.

The department level needs to develop a plan for the program. A graduate council, the Faculty Senate and various committees would then review the proposal.

Finally, the Board of Regents must approve any new doctoral program.

"I recognize we've got to go through much development to do this," he said.

The new doctoral programs could be implemented in two years, Weber said.

Regent John Payne said Wednesday he would approve some UNO doctoral programs.

"If it were worked in conjunction with Lincoln, I would approve it," he said.

However, Payne said UNO's doctoral programs need to be decided on a case-by-case basis.

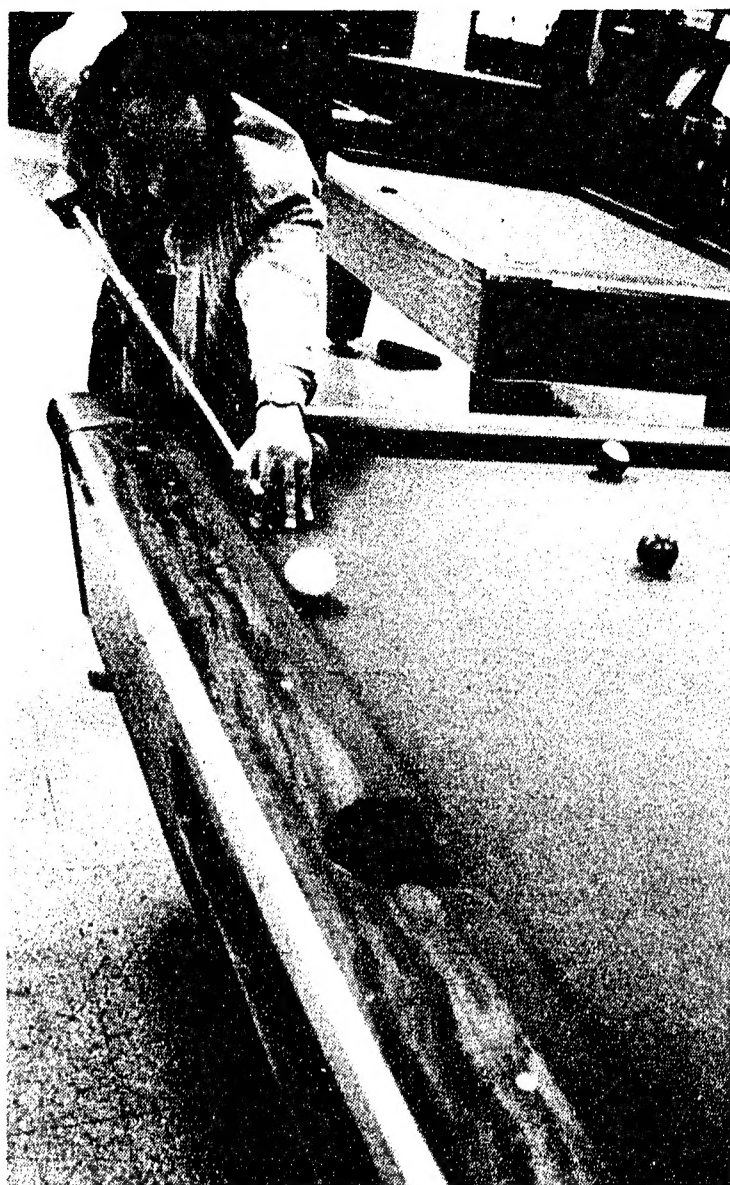
"It depends on what doctorate degree you're talking about," Payne said. "If it's gerontology, no, because that's delivered at the Medical Center. You've got a hundred different programs, so those are going to have to be looked at separately."

Weber also stressed that each program should be developed after assessing the needs of UNO and the university system.

"I don't think we're going to need 10 programs in the next 10 years," Weber said. "As for other areas of development, we have to deal with them on an ad-hoc basis."

Weber said UNO's authorization to plan doctoral programs would not be affected if the state's higher education system is revamped.

"I think what we are doing would hold a lot of weight."



— ERIC FRANCIS

Take the shot. Doug Paterson, UNO dramatic arts chairman, participated in Paul Beck Day.

Fund-raiser in the corner pocket

February 14 was more than Valentine's Day at UNO, it was also Paul Beck Day.

Since 1975, UNO has held Paul Beck Day to raise money for the scholarship fund granted in his memory, according to Natalie Williams, a UNO financial aid counselor.

Beck graduated from Omaha University in 1943 and returned as a history professor in 1950, where he taught until his death in 1975.

The fund consists of one \$500 scholarship for full-time students and one \$250 scholarship for part-time students.

In an effort to raise money for the scholarship fund, UNO administrators and faculty members

challenged students in ping pong and pool in the Student Center Game Room at \$1 per game.

Also, a can for donations was located in the Student Center Continental Room.

Some faculty members cleared tables and served students in the Continental Room and Sweet Shop as part of the day's promotions.

Part of the money from the Continental Room will be donated to the scholarship fund.

Although the game room competition usually draws the greatest student support, most of the money comes from faculty donations in the Continental Room, according to Student Center director Guy Conway.

Fine Arts Building faces rough test

By JOHN WATSON

The final design of the proposed UNO Fine Arts Building will go before the University of Nebraska Board of Regents for approval at its meeting Saturday.

David Shrader, dean of the College of Fine Arts, said the design includes an increase of more than 11,000 square feet available to the college.

He said because classes in the College of Fine Arts are currently spread throughout the campus, the new building will unite the college.

"It will bring together in one building programs which have been in various buildings," he said.

Consolidating those classes into one build-

ing will not only increase the space available for the College of Fine Arts, but the other colleges will gain a combined 30,000 square feet, Shrader said.

Although the proposed Fine Arts Building has received support at UNO, at least one member of the Board of Regents is opposed to its construction.

The *Omaha World-Herald* reported Wednesday that Regent Robert Allen said the proposed Fine Arts Building would not serve the majority of the students at UNO.

Shrader said with the increase in liberal education, students at comprehensive universities like UNO would utilize those facilities the Fine Arts Building would provide.

"My position is that the building will serve

16,000 university students along with the 300 majors offered at UNO," Shrader said.

It was also reported that Allen said the building would be to elaborate and expensive.

During a telephone interview Wednesday, Regent John Payne disagreed.

"You have to realize that when you get into specialized buildings, the square-footage cost is going to be higher than the general-purpose classroom building," Payne said. "I feel as long as we are going to construct buildings with an expectant life of 80 to 100 years, they ought to have an unusual and unique design that will blend with the other architectural designs on campus."

Allen was unavailable for comment.

NEWS LINE

LOCAL NEWS EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Proposal passes test

Two proposals that would move the Unicameral closer to restructuring Nebraska's higher education system advanced out of the State Legislature's Education Committee Monday.

Legislative Resolution 239, which would abolish the current University of Nebraska Board of Regents and the State College Board of Trustees, passed through the committee by a 6-1 vote. Under the resolution, the seven state colleges and three university campuses would each be governed by individual boards of trustees. Each board would be coordinated by a single board of regents.

Legislative Bill 1141 moved out of the committee by a 6-2 vote. The bill describes in greater detail the duties of the new governing bodies.

State Sen. Ron Withem, chairman of the committee, and state Sen. Jerome Warner have declared the proposals priority legislation for the session.

Regents to meet Saturday

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents will hold its monthly meeting Saturday in Lincoln. The meeting will begin following subcommittee hearings at 8 a.m. in the Varner Hall Board Room on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus.

Speaker highlighted

One of the highlights of UNO's Black History and Culture Month celebration will be a presentation by Tony Brown, producer and host of "Tony Brown's Journal."

His lecture, "African-Americans Moving Toward the 21st Century: An Agenda for Survival," will be presented Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall. A reception and an opportunity to meet Brown will follow.

Some taxing tips

The Internal Revenue Service has made available a new publication that explains the federal tax laws with particular interest to high school and college students.

"Student's Guide to Federal Income Tax," can help students decide if their income from wages, tips, scholarships and fellowships is tax deductible.

The IRS published more than 100 free tax publications.

Class rediscovers myths

Ancient and contemporary mythology combine with improvisational acting in a new noncredit course from the College of Continuing Studies.

Acting Out Myths is a five-session participatory workshop for adults who want to explore the significance of mythology in modern life. James Larson, a part-time drama instructor will teach the course.

Sessions begin March 14 at 7 p.m.

The people deserve Ph.D. programs

It's a simple case of supply and demand. UNO Chancellor Del Weber announced Wednesday that UNO had received the go ahead from University of Nebraska Interim President Martin Massengale to begin the planning of doctoral programs. And it seems Omaha and UNO are both ready.

The Fall 1989 semester saw enrollment rise to a record level, and the Spring 1990 level also has surpassed previous spring totals.

Why? Take a look at UNO's vital statistics. The average UNO student still is about 27 years old, works at least part time and takes more than four years to graduate. Obviously, every UNO freshman isn't just out of high school.

Omahans are choosing UNO for its convenience and its courses. But after they've achieved their bachelor's and master's degrees, what's left?

The answer, of course, is a Ph.D.

STAFF EDITORIAL

The metropolitan area is teeming with professionals in computer science, business and engineering. Most of them, after an eight hour day at work, wouldn't be able (and probably wouldn't want) to drive the 50 miles to Lincoln to attend a night class.

While engineering may be limited to the Lincoln campus, the other two areas, and many others, need to be explored.

Massengale's green light is a welcome acknowledgment by the university as a whole that UNO is continuing to come of age. It is no longer just the university for the student who didn't pursue post-secondary education right out of high school.

It has become the learning institution, too, for middle management, the small business owner, the bank president and the average employee. It is more than just a place for "polishing up" on your algebra skills.

UNO can, and must, provide doctoral programs to meet the city of Omaha's needs. The people deserve it.



'We'll tie it on the top of the car'

Judging from some of the Valentine's Day messages in Tuesday's *Gateway*, some of our traditional students may soon commit premeditated matrimony.

If you must, you must.

But before Shnookems and his/her little Shloomfa say, "I do," they should ask each other one important question:

"Do you have MAMA?"

No, no. The question has nothing to do with Mother's apron strings or even the size of her estate.

MAMA (Must Acquire More Antiques) sufferers have an uncontrollable and incurable urge to own old things and eventually, old people.

If one of the two future mates tests positive for MAMA, the other should know the implications and proceed with caution. The choices:

- Call off the wedding.
- Volunteer to ingest the MAMA germ. (If you both have it, there's no problem — other than the threat of going broke.)
- Marry him/her in spite of the affliction.

Before you choose option c, be sure you understand what you're signing up for.

After over 21 years married to a MAMA sufferer, I feel obligated to warn the unsuspecting.

(Note: Although MAMA may strike

either gender, I will refer to the victim as she, because of my personal experience with a female MAMA sufferer.)

Expect to spend countless weekends following your spouse through musty, tomb-like shops in exciting towns like Louisville, Neb. and Walnut, Iowa.

While she mulls over the merits of an oak armoire or a camelback trunk, you can amuse yourself by thumbing through the August 1911 issue of *Field and Stream* or by admiring the faded clipper ship paintings.

You must also prepare yourself for

BILL WILSON COLUMNIST

impromptu excursions. While driving happily down the highway toward a well-deserved vacation in Waterloo — before you can divert her attention — she spots a buckboard seat in front of a barn-turned-antique shop.

"I love it, dear," you say. "But where will we put it?"

"We'll tie it on top of the car," she says cheerfully.

You think about tying her on top of the car, but you know she can't help it. So off you go, looking like the missing members

of a gypsy caravan.

When not visiting picturesque shops, the afflicted mate must carry, push, lift, paint and polish. By my calculations, antique endeavors have consumed 26.4 per cent of my adult life.

The last time I counted, the residue of my wife's MAMA sickness includes 27 major pieces, like dressers, cupboards, armoires, tables, wash stands — even an antique wheel chair and, yes, a buckboard seat.

Non-furniture items include: a surrey wheel (now part of a glass-top table), a wheel barrow (piled high with teddy bears), a couple of ironing boards, printers' trays, many ice skates, rug beaters, a cabbage cutter, ice tongs ... The list goes on.

There you have it. Sad, but true.

If your spouse-to-be shows signs of the disease, insist he or she go into therapy before the wedding.

Meanwhile, long-time MAMA sufferers and their families need help. Please send your generous contributions to me in care of the *Gateway*. I'll see to it that they fully support this worthy cause.

I'm afraid my wife has that look in her eye again.

Life, liberty and abortion

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to Dave Manning's article "Americans' liberty is too precious to limit" in the Jan. 30th issue of the abortion debate; Pro-Life, Pro-Choice, Anti-Choice, Pro-Abortion. No matter which of those labels you fall under, we all fall under one same label, American. This brings me to my point. Mr. Manning goes on to say that as Americans our liberty is a right guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, we have fought for it. But how far is that liberty allowed to extend?

When our founding fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution, I don't think they ever dreamed we would use our liberty to justify killing the pre-born. If you read the Declaration of Independence, you will find that it says "...all men are created equal," and that we have "certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." If you notice, it does not say all men are born equal, but created equal. It does not say all men are created equal, and then once they are born they have the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It says we are created equal with those unalienable rights.

Whether one is Pro-Choice or Pro-Life, we know that at conception a life is created, and if it is not a human life with human chromosomes, what kind of life is it? As quoted from the 1977 edition of "The World Book Encyclopedia", "A human being is called an embryo for about the first two months of development before birth." (Vol. 6, P. 206). A human being by another name is still a human being. Is it not? My point is that human life is created at conception and according to the Declaration of Independence, this life has certain unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I agree with you Mr. Manning that our "liberty is too precious to limit", but you will notice life appears right before liberty and if the life is taken away, then how can it have liberty? Yes, our founding fathers wanted to protect the liberty of Americans, but first we need to protect their lives.

Patty Doolin
UNO Student

Off-campus ideas needed

To the Editor:

First, the San Francisco earthquake ...then, KRCK.... now, Tony Barone on the front page. Apparently the *Gateway* doesn't want to bore itself with events happening around this campus (or can't find any). It's amazing to see how much space UNO's newspaper devotes to stories that have nothing to do with UNO.

What's the next cover story — the Lied Center? Maybe even Tom Osborne?

Mike Hansen
UNO Graduate

Gateway

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Letters must be signed using the first and last name or initials and the last name. Letters must include the writer's address and telephone number.

Free Cassette Head Cleaner Offer a Big Hit

CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN CAMPUS CASSETTE PLAYERS COMMENCES

OMAHA - A massive clean-up campaign has begun on campus and student cassette players have been designated as the initial target area. The students have been responding well to the project mostly because Great American Music is offering them a FREE cassette head cleaner when they make any purchase of \$15.00 or more. "Operation Head-Wash" has been instated as the first phase of a bigger project whose goal is to get students to take responsibility for the overall appearance of the

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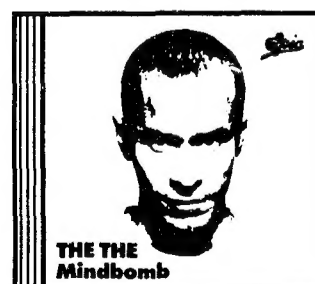
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campus. Committee chairman Ivan Stravinski gave the following explanation: "With all the garbage that comes out of these kids' tape-decks we felt this was the perfect place to start the clean-up." The pro-

motion will be going on until February 18th, while supplies last. Phase II of the project will begin immediately after, with campus pubs being slated as next in line for an overhaul. School officials felt there would be no problem getting students to spend time in the bars.

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OPTIONS

GATEWAY'S ENTERTAINMENT AND FEATURE WEEKLY

PICTURE PERFECT

BY
ELIZABETH
OMMACHEN

Plastic dime-store dinosaurs posed precariously on the edge of the white railing. Adjacent to prehistoric monsters stood an antique Brunswick pool table dating back to 1890.

The table's red-felt surface added a conspicuous touch of color to the white-walled studio, with black and white photographs dotting the room.

Sunlight from the studio's picture window overlooking Vinton Street danced on the prints. As he sifted through the photos, Larry Ferguson said he is an artist and photography is his medium.

"It's a matter of self-expression, and that's really the bottom line," Ferguson said. "I can use a lot of different styles and techniques with photography that I can use in acting, drawing or painting, too."

Although he prefers to remain active in various aspects of art, he said he chose photography because "it was quick."

"It took too long to produce plays or to make paintings. Photography allows me to produce things very rapidly," he said. However, he still has unprinted work from 10 years ago. "I know they're fabulous pictures, but I just haven't got time to do it."

In addition to working out of his 17th and Vinton Street studio, Ferguson teaches photography at UNO and Bellevue College.

His work has been featured in more than 260 exhibitions at the Art Institute of Chicago, The Grey Gallery at New York University, Omaha's Joslyn Art Museum, Lincoln's Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, New York's Pratt Institute and numerous other galleries across the country.

But the 35-year-old artist said he hasn't always enjoyed a steady stream of success. In fact, failure in football led him to his first camera.

"I'm a real slight build, but I'm a hell of a good runner. One night, I hit the tackling dummy too hard and I didn't get up," Ferguson joked, recalling his brief days on the Maxwell High School football team. "I bruised all my organs inside, so I was out for football."

Although Ferguson's football career came to an abrupt end, something altogether new was just beginning.

"The coach said, 'Let me give you my camera and show you what I know about photography, and you can make some pictures of the game,'" he said, adding that the coach's five-minute lesson included determining exposure and how to press the button. "That was about all he knew, and I took it from there."

The farm boy from Maxwell, Neb., taught himself how to



—TED CASEY SCHLAEBITZ

"That's my Impish grin," said artistic photographer Larry Ferguson, as he examined his own Polaroid image.

develop film and print pictures in a "little bitty lab" but never had any formal instruction in photography until he went to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I studied photojournalism there for awhile, because I thought that's where photography really was," he said, leaning over his Nike Air Jordans as he rolled up his black and white checkerboard socks. "I just got really tired of going out on the street and trying to beat news out of people. 'It's hard-core; you're making the news,'" he continued. "And I just didn't like doing it. I found out there was very little room for self-expression. It's really limiting."

After taking several courses in drama and art, Ferguson found a fine-arts photography class and said, "That's it."

For this photographer, making a picture is much more than looking through the viewfinder and pushing the button.

"Most people aren't prepared to recognize when it happens, and that's the problem," he said. "I can teach all the mechanics in

my classes, but I can't teach them when to press the button."

For Ferguson, recognition comes from "visual thought."

"Everybody always thought I was kind of strange because I always did look at things differently," he said. "But most people don't know how to really look at things: to scrutinize and be discerning with it."

"As they pull up to the stoplight, most of the time people look at the color. They really don't pay attention to how a stoplight is made, how it's organized on the wire, whether it's suspended across the street or hung on the end of a pole," he continued. "They have what I call fleeting glances. They glean just enough information to get passed the stoplight and that's it. They really don't look around very much."

From coffee cups and cars to people, Ferguson said he always

SEE LARRY ON PAGE 11

VOLUTIONS

HALF PAST 8

One hundred productions later, the Norton Theatre is still going strong. In celebration, the theater will serve cake and champagne for the opening of "Tonight at 8:30" by Noel Coward, the first production of the Norton's musical season.

Greg Morales, Norton's managing director, said Coward developed 11 one-act plays to form "Tonight at 8:30." Although Coward and Gertrude Lawrence chose three different acts to perform each night during their London tour in the 1930s, the Norton has chosen three which will remain the same during the show's entire run.

"Red Peppers," a play about two aging performers, was chosen because of its humor and liveliness, Morales said.

Rudyard Norton, who passed away last fall, enjoyed "Fumed Oak," a play about family life.

"Fumed Oak" is about family life and how sometimes it's bittersweet," Morales said. "Sometimes what seems very ordinary or calm on the outside is really churning inside."

"Shadow Play," a reflective tale about life and situations, is a favorite of the Norton Theatre's board of directors, Morales said.

"We wanted to be sure that the one acts we chose were of some significance," he said.

Robert Urbinati, who has also directed UNO productions, will be directing "Tonight at 8:30."

According to Morales, Coward's plays generally have wide appeal.

"He kept a lot of his shows very universal in their themes, because all he was writing was material for he and Gertrude Lawrence to perform," he said. "The style in which Noel Coward writes is very snappy. It's clipped English. It's very fast and it has to be delivered with a certain rhythm."

Morales said the Norton Theatre's small size allows for an intimate show.

"People are amazed at how intimate the space is," he said. "You're right there when an actor or actress breathes. In a small theater, emotions seem to run higher."

In addition to "Tonight at 8:30" opening-night celebrations, there will be a "high tea" following the show Feb. 25 and a brunch March 4.

The show will open tonight at 8 p.m. and run through March 11.

—SARAH SMOCK

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NATIVE POET



Poet Ralph Salisbury said he tries to speak for people who struggle for a sense of dignity, well-being and beauty in their lives.

"And I am one of those people," adds the son of a Cherokee storyteller.

Salisbury will deliver a reading of his own poems Feb. 26 at UNO.

The poet published five books of poems, including "Going to the Water," "A White Rainbow" and "Spirit Beast Chant." This year, he will release a collection of short stories, "One Indian and Two Chiefs" and a novel, "The Raven Mocker Wars."

Salisbury has presented his work before reading to audiences and over public radio and television in the United States, Canada, India,

Great Britain, the Soviet Union and other countries.

Currently, he is an English professor at the University of Oregon. He has worked in a variety of jobs, including farm laborer, construction worker, journalist and professor.

Salisbury's reading, which will be held in the Arts and Sciences Hall Room 214 at 8 p.m., is sponsored by UNO's Writers Workshop. Admission is \$2 for the general public and \$1 for UNO faculty, staff and students.

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WINTER PIROETTES

Dance, anyone? Ballet Omaha is planning to transform the Orpheum Theatre into a wonderland of dance during its performances of "The Winter Repertory."

The program consists of three separate pieces: "Les Patineurs" (The Skaters), "Konservatoriet" (The Dance Class) and "Footage."

Robert Vickrey, Ballet Omaha's artistic director, said the three pieces are basically unrelated.

"The theme is dance," Vickrey said. "If there is anything tying them together, it is that they are all very dancey pieces."

But Vickrey said each ballet will offer its own style.

"Les Patineurs" is a contemporary piece danced in classic style, and according to Ballet Omaha's description of Robin Welch's choreography, it is a dance which "emphasizes romance, camaraderie and the distinctive personalities of Ballet Omaha members."

In addition to choreographing "Les Patineurs," Welch staged the adaptation of "Konservatoriet," an August Bournonville original created from his memories of 19th-century ballet studios in Paris.

The third piece, "Footage," is choreographed by Peter Anastos and accompanied by musical scores from the 1930s.

"Footage" can be called a Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers ballet," Vickrey said, adding it's not a tribute to the dancers.

"Peter just found these records in a flea market in London and liked the music," Vickrey said. "It's a wonderful, happy ballet."

Five couples will dance the ballet: the men in tuxedos, the women in evening gowns.

Although Vickrey said he believes "Footage" could be the most popular of the three, in part, because of the recognizable music, the others are no less appealing.

"They are all wonderful in a different way," he said.

Although Vickrey is not choreographing for "The Winter Repertory," he does apply some expertise to the nearly finished product.

"I go in and criticize," he said smiling. "Actually, when they get to this stage, I critique the dancers and help them if they need it."

Vickrey said "The Winter Repertory" will tour to Springfield, Mo., in mid-March, with a new program to be offered in Omaha by mid-April.

The Omaha performances of "The Winter Repertory" will begin at 8 p.m. Feb. 23-24 at the Orpheum Theatre.

—MELANIE WILLIAMS

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JOINT PRODUCTION

UNO's Concert Choir will host the Midland College Choir for a joint concert of choral music Feb. 24.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. and will be held in the UNO's Strauss Performing Arts Center's Recital Hall.

"This is the first collaboration between UNO and Midland College singers, and it is important for our students to hear other choirs and also to be heard by other choirs," said Cina Crisara, director of UNO's Concert Choir.

The repertoire for the evening includes works by Mozart, Bach, Parker, Fissinger and a collection of South African songs to be performed by the Midland College Choir.

The concert will conclude with the combined choirs singing the "Faure Cantique de Jean Racine" and a rousing rendition of the Stephen Foster folk song, "Cindy," arranged by Mack Wilber.

UNO's Choir will also present a sampling of the program it will be taking to Washington D.C. later this semester for the Music Educators National Convention.

Tickets for the concert are \$3 for the general public, \$2 for students and free for all UNO faculty, staff and students with valid I.D.

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BROADWAY BOUND

Broadway — one of the most respected names in theater.

To have the chance to see such musicals as "Les Miserables" and "The Wiz" is a treat in itself, but to experience the best of the best in one production is certainly an event worth mentioning.

"Basically Broadway," the Upstairs Dinner Theatre's latest production, is a fast-paced, musical extravaganza that features selections from various Broadway plays.

"This is the most exciting project I've ever worked on because of the people I work with," said John Morrissey, director of "Basically Broadway."

Camille Metoyer-Moten, Sue Perkins, Paul Tranisi and Lynne Boyd make up the four-member cast. Although Morrissey said he and the performers are old acquaintances, they have collaborated on only one previous show.

He said the chance to perform excerpts from a variety of Broadway shows provided the perfect opportunity to bring this group together again.

"Basically Broadway" will contain two 45-minute acts featuring both traditional and contemporary Broadway music.

Morrissey described the production as a "musical with a twist" that should capture each audience member's attention.

The show begins Sunday at 7:30 p.m., with one performance scheduled.

—ANTHONY COBBS

O



These people don't look like Broadway actors! From "Basically Broadway," in the back row, from left: Lynne Boyd, John Morrissey, Sue Perkins. In the front row, from left: Paul Tranisi, Camille Metoyer-Moten.



DIE HARDEST

Time waits for no one. Except Mason Storm.

After stumbling onto a high-level political corruption and murder scheme, the dedicated Los Angeles police detective (Steven Seagal) is marked for murder by a deadly trio comprised of an ambitious politician, a deadly hood and a member of Storm's own police force. Gunned down and left for dead, Storm falls into a coma and is hidden away for seven years.

When he finally regains consciousness, Storm finds beautiful nurse Andy Stewart (Kelly LeBrock) at his side. As head nurse of the coma ward, Stewart has cared for Storm during his years of inactivity. Although she knows nothing about this stranger, she feels a fondness for him.

Storm doesn't know who tried to kill him, but he is determined to seek out his assailants and settle the score. And with seven years gone, he intends to make up for lost time.

But it isn't going to be easy. When the killers find out Storm is still alive, they order several of their meanest men to finish the job.

What the killers don't know is their best might not be good enough against this martial arts god, a dude determined to avenge the death of his wife and son.

This prologue begins the latest in the kill-em-bang-kick-shoot-everyone-genre of film, "Hard to Kill." Seagal's follow-up to "Above the Law" stormed into local screens two weeks ago.

Seagal, who holds black belts in a wide array of martial arts, is close to becoming the next action icon, joining the ranks of Chuck Norris, Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and, the meanest of the mean, Clint Eastwood.

Don't expect the Academy of Motion Pictures to recognize this action-thriller next year. But if you like a lot of violence, guns, chicks, kicks, car chases or even just Kelly LeBrock, this piece of trash-art is just for you.

O

TOTAL RESPECT

What happens when someone wins "Puttin' on the Hits?"

Besides taking home the \$1,000 prize, how about two successful rhythm and blues albums?

That's exactly what happened to the band TROOP, which will make an appearance at the Omaha Civic Auditorium Music Hall Feb. 19.

TROOP is a quintet of young men known for their harmonizing vocals and dancing.

Members of TROOP (Total Respect Of Other People) combine their vocals and dance moves to create a unique package for audiences.

"We put dancing and singing together in a serious package," said Allen McNeil, TROOP's lead singer. "When we get together it's like, 'this is what we're supposed to be doing.' Everything

falls into place."

Fellow lead singer Steve Russell echoed McNeil's comments.

"We all grew up together and know each other real well and those bonds can still be felt in our show," Russell said.

TROOP's latest recording effort, *Attitude*, features rhythm and blues heavies Chuckii Booker and Gerald Levert.

Opening for TROOP will be The Royal Court Band, who recently released the single "Will Tears Change Your Mind?"

General Admission tickets are on sale at the Civic Auditorium, Homer's, Pickles, Rosenblatt Stadium, Leola's and TIX.

O



BY
JOHN
WATSON

A QUEST FOR FREEDOM

About twice a year the police sent "invitations" to the youth in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, requesting them to work for the communist government. Everyone knew the offer meant working at least one year without pay. And those who accepted the request were often forced to find their own food.

Nineteen-year-old Lu Luong always ignored the invitations. The police would come to his family's row house to "escort" him to his assignment, but Lu always eluded them.

When he received his ninth invitation, Lu realized he would have to leave his pastry business, his family and Vietnam behind.

His father, Lu Trang Nguyen, arranged for someone to guide his son out of Vietnam, through neighboring Cambodia and into Thailand. The guide told Lu's father they would leave the morning of July 10, 1980.

Lu did not sleep the night before he would begin his journey to freedom. Instead, he lay on the second-floor balcony going over the sequence of the next day's events: where to be, at what time, with whom and for how long.

At sunrise, Lu tiredly dressed himself in the clothes Trieu Hong Kieu, his mother, had made for him. To avoid suspicion, he would have to look as though he were a poor Cambodian farmer — thongs, black pants, a loose-fitting white T-shirt.

Lu had no travel papers, no identification and no food. He carried only five ounces of gold sewn into the lining of his pants. While he dressed, he heard his mother asking God to watch over her son during his journey.

Any other morning Lu would have gone to the streets of Ho Chi Minh City's Chinatown. But that morning at 6 a.m., Lu walked with his oldest sister, Lu Mwoi, and his parents to the bus station.

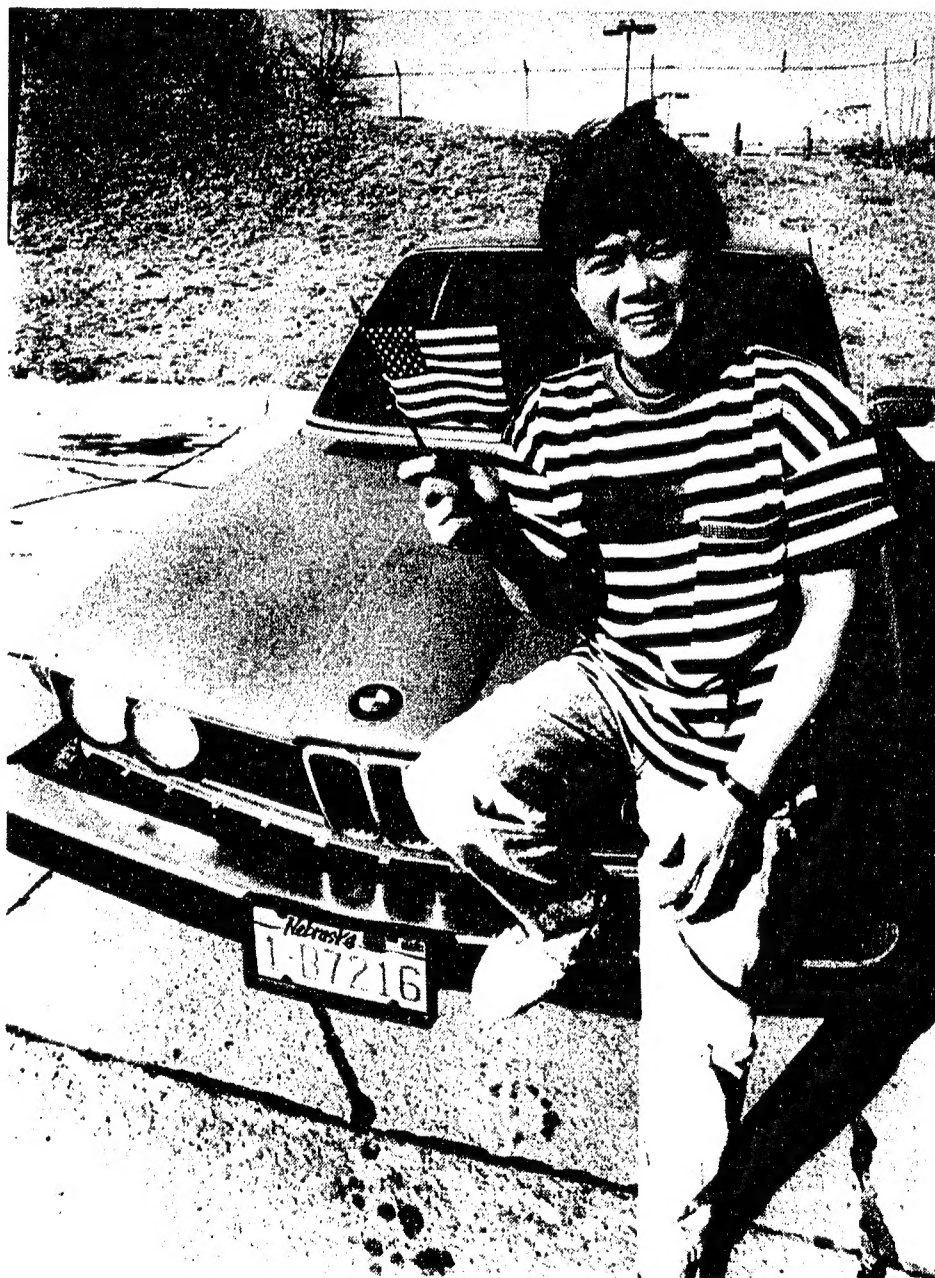
In the hot morning sun, the 10-minute walk through the city seemed to take forever. The trio moved down the sidewalk holding hands. Although his parents cried, Lu did not shed a tear. He had to be strong for his family.

"Lu, if you make it to the United States, remember us," his mother said in Chinese. "We are living hard in Vietnam."

The Lu's were one of thousands of Chinese families living in Vietnam.

"If you make money in the United States remember to send some home," his father said.

At the bus station, Lu met the two guides, Phat and Cuong. Both were Cambodians in their early 20s who accepted only gold for their services.



— ERIC FRANCIS

Lu Luong escaped Vietnam with only the shirt on his back. Today, the refugee, who now lives in Omaha, drives a Mercedes and is a successful chef.

Cang, a friend of Lu's father who wanted to go to the United States, also met them at the bus station.

The two guides and Cang boarded the bus while Lu said goodbye to his parents.

"If you don't hear from me, forget I was even born," Lu said. He was tired of living under communist rule and although he feared he might never see his family again, he was happy to leave.

The four men sat in the back of the bus as it moved out of the city. With his eyes fixed on the Vietnamese countryside, Lu barely spoke during

the drive. Although he was relatively safe while still in Vietnam, he kept thinking of the next step in his escape. For Lu, it was like putting together a jigsaw puzzle without being aware of what the solution should look like.

As the bus moved farther and farther away from his home, Lu knew he would face a completely different world.

At 8:30 a.m., the bus reached the station in the country. Lu, Cang, Phat and Cuong exited through the rear door of the bus. Their connection to Chau Doc — a small town on the border with Cambodia about 300 kilometers from Ho Chi

Minh City — was late.

The group passed the next two hours eating and sitting around the bus station. The bus to Chau Doc arrived two hours later. Because the noise of the engine and the wind through the windows made it difficult to hear, the four men sat in the rear of the bus where their conversation might not be heard.

The ride took all day, arriving in Chau Doc after sunset.

Located on the Mekong River, Chau Doc was a large village surrounded by farms. In its center was a market with large tables where the farmers could sell their goods.

Phat left for about an hour to search for a boat to take them up the Mekong. The river flowed through Cambodia into Vietnam. Later, when Phat returned, the group settled on the empty tables for the night.

Lu was awakened by Cang at 8 a.m. They met the two guides by the edge of the river. If they were late, the boat would have left without them. Phat told them to eat as much as they could, because they would be on the river until the next day.

At 10:30 a.m., they met the boat at a dock on the river. The wooden boat already had six people sitting in its small cabin.

"Don't worry they are leaving Vietnam, too," Phat said to Lu.

The Cambodian border was a few kilometers up river. Once the boat crossed that point, Lu would be considered "illegal." He was now confused. He didn't know what was going on or what would happen next — he was at the mercy of his guides.

The river guide didn't use the small motor on the back of the boat but instead rowed with a long wooden pole. Lu figured the guide didn't want to waste any fuel, which was scarce in that part of the country.

The boatload of refugees slowly made its way up the Mekong River into Cambodia.

"Stay inside the boat there are communists all over," Cuong told the refugees. "Stay inside the cabin."

The refugees endured the long journey up the river without a word. Neither group wanted the other to know they were leaving Vietnam illegally. They remained in the cabin into the night and well into the next morning.

At about 5 a.m., the boat pulled into the strangest village Lu had ever seen. He realized he was now in Cambodia, and there would be no turning back.

The people in the village were primitive, wearing only strips of cloth wrapped around their waists and heads. After Phat paid the river guide



with some of the gold Cang and Lu had given him, he turned his boat around and began the long journey back to Chau Doc.

The four men then went to eat in a small "cafe" consisting of a roof resting on four poles with a small table underneath. Lu had never tasted Cambodian food and could not decide what it was he was eating. But it didn't matter, because everyone was starving.

Phat told Lu and Cang what he knew about the villagers. He said they were not very intelligent.

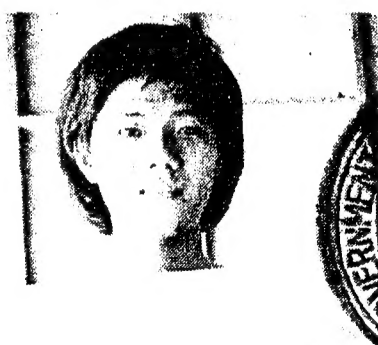
"When they go to the market, they tie one string around their wrist for each thing they have to buy. This helps them remember how many things to get," Phat said. "When they buy something, they take one string off of their wrist. When there are no more strings left, they go home."

Lu felt uneasy about being in a foreign country, especially a country occupied by Vietnam since it invaded Cambodia in 1978 to push out the Khmer Rouge (the fanatical communist group responsible for murdering more than 2 million Cambodian citizens).

In Cambodia, there was danger everywhere. If the Khmer Rouge found Lu and Cang, they would probably kill them. If the Vietnamese soldiers found them, they would be sent back to prison in Vietnam.

They quickly ate their food and left. They walked a short way through part of the jungle to a road where they could hitchhike for a ride.

At sunrise, there was little traffic on the road that led to Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital. They walked a while before an old army troop carrier, which served as a bus in the country, stopped to let them board. Phat paid the driver, and the four men climbed in the back of the crowded bus. Phat, Cuong, Lu and Cang had to



While Lu waited for a sponsor in the United States, he spent most of the summer of 1981 learning to speak English in one of Indonesia's refugee camps.

stand the duration of the ride to Phnom Penh, which was 50 kilometers away.

Other than an occasional stretch of bumpy dirt paths near the poorer villages, the road to the capital was paved and smooth.

The army car pulled into Phnom Penh in the afternoon. Once inside the big city where it would be easy for him to be lost in the crowd, Lu felt relaxed. Cang and Lu could also speak freely in Chinese since Phnom Penh also had a large Chinese population. The group spent the rest of the afternoon looking for a place to stay.

They found a small, two-room house owned by a woman who was also a guide for Vietnamese refugees. She was a small woman in her early 40s. Lu never knew her name.

For the refugees and their guides, the most important task while in Phnom Penh was to find someone, anyone, with a typewriter. They needed to forge travel papers for Lu and Cang.

Without them, it would be impossible to reach Battambang — 300 kilometers away — the next stop on the road to freedom.

They searched the city for days without luck. On the fourth day, Cuong left for Battambang to search for a typewriter. "I'll just find it there," he said. When Cuong did not return by the seventh day, Phat searched for alternatives.

Offering her gold, Phat convinced the woman who owned the house to guide them to Battambang.

"I can't guarantee anything," she said. "And I will only take you to Battambang. After that, you're on your own."

She left Phat, Cang and Lu in her house as she set out to find a typewriter. She returned two hours later with forged travel papers and arrangements for another troop carrier to drive them to Battambang.

Leaving the next morning, the group rode in the back of the covered troop carrier. There were few passengers in the truck, so they had plenty of room to sit.

Half-way between Phnom Penh and Battambang was a town called Pursat, a major military base occupied by both the Vietnamese Army and its Cambodian counterpart. Everyone on the troop carrier realized that passing safely through Pursat would be the most dangerous part of their journey.

The road passed just outside of Pursat, which had only one checkpoint on the far side of town. When the carrier reached the checkpoint, the group's fears became reality. The soldiers searched the vehicle. Lu, who was lying on one of the benches with his head resting on the woman's leg, could not see since his head was covered. The soldiers spoke in Cambodian, so Lu also could not understand what they were saying.

"What is the matter with him?" the soldier asked, pointing to Lu.

"Please don't wake him, he's very sick," the woman said. But the soldier did not believe her.

As he began to approach Lu, the soldier tripped when the carrier was accidentally moved forward. The sudden jolt had thrown the soldier onto the carrier's floor and into a puddle of oil. Looking a little stunned, the soldier rose from the floor and left the vehicle, allowing the group to pass without further inspection.

"You are very lucky," Cang said to Lu in Chinese, explaining what had happened.

They continued on the road to Battambang, hoping that the worst was behind them. Shortly after sunset, the driver pulled off to the side of the road.

"I've been driving all day," he said. "We will sleep here tonight." They were only about 50 kilometers outside of Battambang, but the passengers were tired and needed to sleep.

The following morning they reached Battambang. The woman who had helped them left with the driver of the truck, returning to Phnom Penh.

Once inside the city, the trio found Cuong, who had left them to find the travel papers four days before. Cuong said they still needed to find travel papers, along with bicycles to make the remaining leg of the journey easier.

While Cuong and Phat went looking for the items, Lu and Cang waited in an abandoned garage. They returned with two bicycles, each with two seats, and the much-needed travel papers.

It was about a 30-kilometer ride to the edge of the jungle. The uneven dirt road, along with the intense heat, made pedaling a bicycle carrying two passengers difficult. Since the road

SEE FREEDOM ON PAGE 11

JIM'S JOURNAL

BY JIM

Steve took Mr. Peterson to the vet today to get neutered.



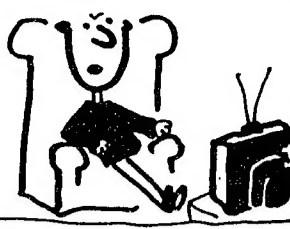
Mr. Peterson has been to the vet before, and doesn't like it.



When Steve came back he said, "Hey, guess what. Mr. Peterson's a girl."



Tony was watching TV, and he mumbled, "Big deal, a cat's a cat."



Today Steve brought Mr. Peterson back from the vet.



She had a little square bald spot on her stomach, and looked tired.

Today at the bookstore I worked the cash register.



Jean, the manager, came up to me and said, "How's it goin', Jim?"



I said I was fine, and told her about Mr. Peterson getting fixed.



She said, "You remind me of my little brother."

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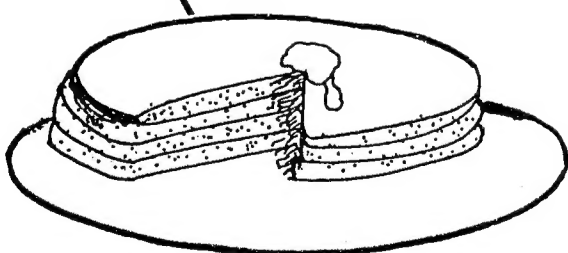
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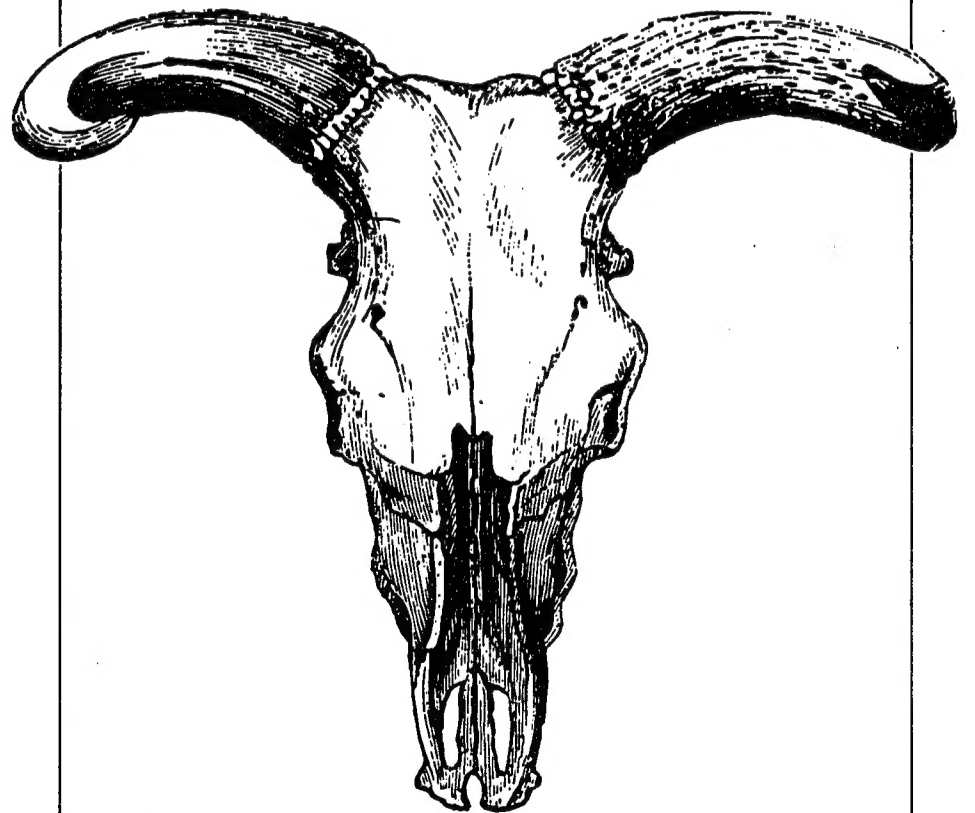
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FREEDOM FROM PAGE 9

was filled with businessmen coming and going from Thailand, the group did not seem out of the ordinary.

They reached the edge of the jungle late in the afternoon. Phat, Cang, Lu and Cuong sat on the ground near the entrance of the jungle trail. Lu stared at the stars in the twilight sky and wondered if he would ever see those stars as a free man. Now, only the jungle served as the barrier to freedom.

After the brief rest, the four men continued their trek. Not unlike the road that had brought them there, the trail through the jungle also was used by businessmen commuting from Thailand.

The jungle on the border was dangerous, as well. Among the trees, grass and bushes were different resistance groups — communist and non-communist — fighting to liberate Cambodia from the Vietnamese, who were trying to crush the resistance movement. At any moment, the four men could find themselves in the middle of a battle.

The businessmen who passed them on the trail seemed oblivious to the possible danger.

Suddenly, one of the "businessmen" pulled a .45-caliber automatic pistol from beneath his shirt and pointed it at Cang's head. He forced the group off the trail and into the jungle.

"Give me your money," the man demanded in Cambodian.

Cang did not understand the language and looked to Phat for a translation. Phat told the

man Cang didn't have any money.

"Take off your clothes," he then demanded as he tugged at Cang's shirt. Cang removed his clothes. With the gun fixed at his head, the thief went through Cang's clothing but found nothing and threw them back to Cang.

The thief then pointed the gun at Lu and demanded that he take off his clothes. Lu didn't understand Cambodian but followed Cang's example.

"Please, take my clothes if you need," Lu begged in Chinese. "Leave me in my underwear, but don't kill me."

With the gun pointed at him, Lu remembered when he was a child in Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City) during the 1968 Tet Offensive. As a little boy, he had seen many people die — and could have been killed himself — but he never feared death until that moment.

"Don't worry Lu," Cang said in Chinese. "He won't pull the trigger."

The thief searched his clothes and threw them back to him.

Phat had some gold with him and gave it to the gunman so he would leave. Taking the gold, the man put his weapon away and asked Phat if Lu and Cang were trying to escape. Cuong told him they had been guiding them to Thailand from Vietnam.

"All he wants is money," Phat told Lu and Cang. "If we pay him, he will help us through the jungle."

Phat and Cuong gave the man more gold,

and he led them back to the trail and toward Thailand.

The group, now five, walked for another 15 minutes until they reached a small market in the jungle. It was not unusual for businessmen traveling in the jungle at night to sleep at the market until morning. Lu, Cang, Phat, Cuong and the stranger spent the night on the ground in the market square.

The next morning the stranger told Lu and Cang he had friends at the border who could help them.

"But if I can't get you to the Red Cross in Thailand, don't blame me," he said.

The humidity in the morning air made it difficult to breathe as they walked through the jungle. At about 1 p.m., the group reached the border. The stranger took them to a military camp for the Khmer Serei, one of the Cambodian resistance groups loyal to Norodom Siha-nouk, the former king.

Once they reached the border, Phat and Cuong headed back to Phnom Penh. Lu and Cang were almost free.

The Khmer Serei promised to help them across the border, but Lu and Cang first had to earn their passage. They were immediately put to work repairing camp huts damaged during combat. Although they could have been considered prisoners, they were not held in a jail and ate the same food as the soldiers: rice and raw fish.

They labored for the Khmer Serei for about a

week, and then they were sent down the road toward Thailand to another Khmer Serei camp and forced to do more work.

Although the work wasn't as hard — planting flowers and some gardening — they held Lu, Cang and 10 others in the small jail on the campsite. The jail, which was constantly guarded, had a dirt floor and grass roof with bamboo poles tied together to form the walls and the door.

At night when it was too dark to work, the Khmer Serei, looking for Vietnamese spies, would interrogate the prisoners.

On the ninth day at the second camp, the Khmer Serei made a deal with the Red Cross on the other side of the border. They would trade the refugees for food.

Later that afternoon, a truck hauling rice and bread entered the camp. Lu, Cang and the other refugees happily unloaded the truck. Once it was empty, the refugees climbed aboard the truck and headed toward Thailand, and toward freedom.

At the Red Cross station across the border, Lu and Cang were finally free. Lu climbed down from the truck and looked around. When he saw a French Red Cross worker, he knew his long journey was a success.

Lu Luong, now a U.S. citizen, lives in Omaha and has been trying to arrange for his family to come to the United States. He also has initiated a letter-writing campaign to congressmen. Lu still sends his family money, like he has since he received his first pay check in America.

LARRY FROM PAGE 5

pays close attention to details.

"When I go off on an artist-in-residence position, we'll do an exercise called Let's Look at Coffee Cups," he said. "People have really weird notions about what a great coffee cup is: 'It's the one that has the picture of Garfield on it.'"

But after years of studying coffee cups, Ferguson said he has found the perfect cup.

"The quintessential coffee cup, quite frankly, is the classic-white, Italian cafe coffee cup," he said. "It's absolutely beautiful to look at. It's very simple. It holds the right amount of coffee and it has just the right weight. You can pick it up with one finger and it's

very secure and steady in your hand. They're just wonderful."

"And that's the way I look at everything," Ferguson continued. "People do the same thing with other people. You make assumptions by looking at someone. You slide it into your little memory bank that someone's really beautiful. But most people couldn't tell you why. They're not skilled enough at looking at people to be able to figure out what makes them look so special."

Glancing at his studio walls, Ferguson said all the people he photographs are beautiful to him.

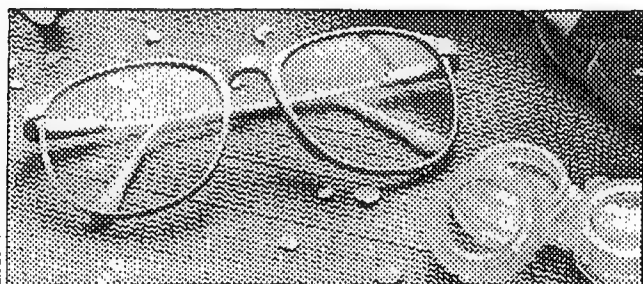
"It's just a matter of finding that portion of them that's beautiful," he said. "Most American males have this misconception about

Playboy women. They think they're just ga-ga gorgeous. Well most of the time, if you see them normally, they're not ga-ga gorgeous. It's a matter of the photographer finding the right angle to photograph that person. They're accentuating the features that are most beautiful."

Ferguson said he uses a slight variation from that technique in his own work.

"I'll look (clients) over very carefully," he said. "What do they really look like? Where do they look interesting from — not necessarily best — but interesting? Then, I'll make an interesting picture from my point of view. It's just a matter of looking."

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168 HOURS

EVENTS CALENDAR

16

FRIDAY

17

SATURDAY

MUSIC

Arthur's: **Bozak and Morrissey**
Chicago Bar: **The Confidentials**
Dubliner: **The Turfmen**
Howard Street Tavern: **A Fifth of May**
Ranch Bowl: **Rock City**
Saddle Creek Bar: **B and the Hot Notes**
The 20s: **Tight Fit**

FILM

Eppley Administration Building: **"A Clockwork Orange"** at 8 p.m.

THEATER

Center Stage Theatre: **"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/when the rainbow is enuf"** at 8 p.m.
Circle Theatre at Vidlak's Family Cafe: **"Mom's Motel"** at 7:45 p.m.
Emmy Gifford Children's Theater: **"The Snow Queen"** at 7 p.m.
Firehouse Dinner Theatre: **"Run for Your Wife!"** at 8 p.m.
Norton Theatre: **"Tonight at 8:30"** at 8 p.m.
Omaha Community Playhouse: **"The Pled Piper"** at 8 p.m.
Upstairs Dinner Theatre: **"The Murder Room"** at 7 p.m.

COMEDY

Funny Bone: **Malone and Nootcheez, John Marks, Ron Larkin** at 8:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.
Noodles: **Mike Lewis, Julie Burney, Mike Preister** at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS

CAT Gallery: **"Perhaps"** (three one-act plays by Samuel Beckett) at 8 p.m.
UNO's Mallory Kountze Planetarium: **"The Power!"** at 8 p.m.

MUSIC

Arthur's: **Bozak and Morrissey**
Chicago Bar: **Panic Picnic**
Dubliner: **The Turfmen**
Howard Street Tavern: **A Fifth of May**
Ranch Bowl: **Rock City**
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Funny Bone: **Malone and Nootcheez, John Marks, Ron Larkin** at 8:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.
Noodles: **Mike Lewis, Julie Burney, Mike Preister** at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS

CAT Gallery: **"Perhaps"** (three one-act plays by Samuel Beckett) at 8 p.m.
Orpheum: **The Omaha Symphony's "From the Countryside"** at 8 p.m.
UNO's Kountze Planetarium: **"The Power!"** at 8 p.m.

18

SUNDAY

21

WEDNESDAY

MUSIC

Arthur's: **The Touchtones**
Howard Street Tavern: **Second Generation**
Ranch Bowl: **Rock City**

FILM

Eppley Administration Building: **"Cabin in the Sky"** and **"Stormy Weather"** at 6 p.m.

THEATER

Center Stage Theatre: **"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/when the rainbow is enuf"** at 3 p.m.
Emmy Gifford Children's Theater: **"The Snow Queen"** at 2 p.m.
Firehouse Dinner Theatre: **"Run for Your Wife!"** at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Norton Theatre: **"Tonight at 8:30"** at 2 p.m.
Omaha Community Playhouse: **"The Pled Piper"** at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Upstairs Dinner Theatre: **"The Murder Room"** at 1 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS

CAT Gallery: **"Perhaps"** (three one-act plays by Samuel Beckett) at 8 p.m.
UNO's Mallory Kountze Planetarium: **"The Little Star That Could"** at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

MUSIC

Arthur's: **The Mighty Jallbreakers**
Howard Street Tavern: **Oliver Riley and The Blue Notions**
Ranch Bowl: **Rock City**
Saddle Creek Bar: **Acoustic Jam Night**, hosted by Earl Bates
The 20s: **Top Secret**

THEATER

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: **"Run for Your Wife!"** at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Omaha Community Playhouse: **"The Pled Piper"** at 8 p.m.
Upstairs Dinner Theatre: **"The Murder Room"** at 1 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS

Student Center Ballroom: **ETC** at 11 p.m.

22

THURSDAY

MUSIC

Arthur's: **The Mighty Jallbreakers**
Dubliner: **Earl Bates**
Howard Street Tavern: **Oliver Riley and The Blue Notions**
Ranch Bowl: **Rock City**
The 20s: **Top Secret**

THEATER

Circle Theatre at Vidlak's Family Cafe: **"Mom's Motel"** at 7:45 p.m.
Firehouse Dinner Theatre: **"Run for Your Wife!"** at 8 p.m.
Norton Theatre: **"Tonight at 8:30"** at 8 p.m.
Omaha Community Playhouse: **"The Pled Piper"** at 8 p.m.
Upstairs Dinner Theatre: **"The Murder Room"** at 7 p.m.

19

MONDAY

MUSIC

Howard Street Tavern: **Who's Dreamin'**
The 20s: **Top Secret**

THEATER

Circle Theatre at Vidlak's Family Cafe: **"Mom's Motel"** at 7:45 p.m.

20

TUESDAY

MUSIC

Ranch Bowl: **The Personics**
The 20s: **Top Secret**

THEATER

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: **"Run for Your Wife!"** at 8 p.m.
Omaha Community Playhouse: **"The Pled Piper"** at 8 p.m.

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ON THE
REBOUND

SPORTING EVENTS AROUND THE AREA

Spikers net three players

The UNO Volleyball team received good news this week when three players committed to play for the 1990 Lady Mavs.

Dawn Hottovy from Millard North High School, Katy Horgan, a transfer player from Central Arizona Junior College and Christine Robins from Wisner-Pilger High School in Wisner, Neb., all signed letters of intent with UNO.

"All three are definitely the kind of players we were looking to recruit," volleyball Head Coach Karen Uhler said. "All three are well rounded student athletes who we hope will benefit from our program."

Mavs look to avenge loss

The UNO men's basketball will seek to avenge their only home loss of the season Friday night when they take on the South Dakota Coyotes.

The Mavericks, currently riding a four game winning streak, lost a squeaker to the Coyotes 68-65 in January.

UNO is currently in second place in the North Central Conference with a 16-6 overall record and a 9-4 league mark. The Mavs will take on Morningside Saturday. UNO downed the Chiefs 108-86 earlier this year.

Lady cagers hope for sweep

The Lady Mavs look to defeat two teams they downed earlier in the year when they battle South Dakota and Morningside this weekend.

UNO defeated South Dakota 64-62 and Morningside 85-66 in two games at the Fieldhouse in mid-January.

North Dakota and North Dakota State will travel to Omaha next weekend to take on the Lady Mavs, 11-12 overall and 5-8 in the North Central Conference.

During halftime of the North Dakota State game, two round trip airline tickets will be given away as part of a contest. Entry forms are available in the basketball game programs.

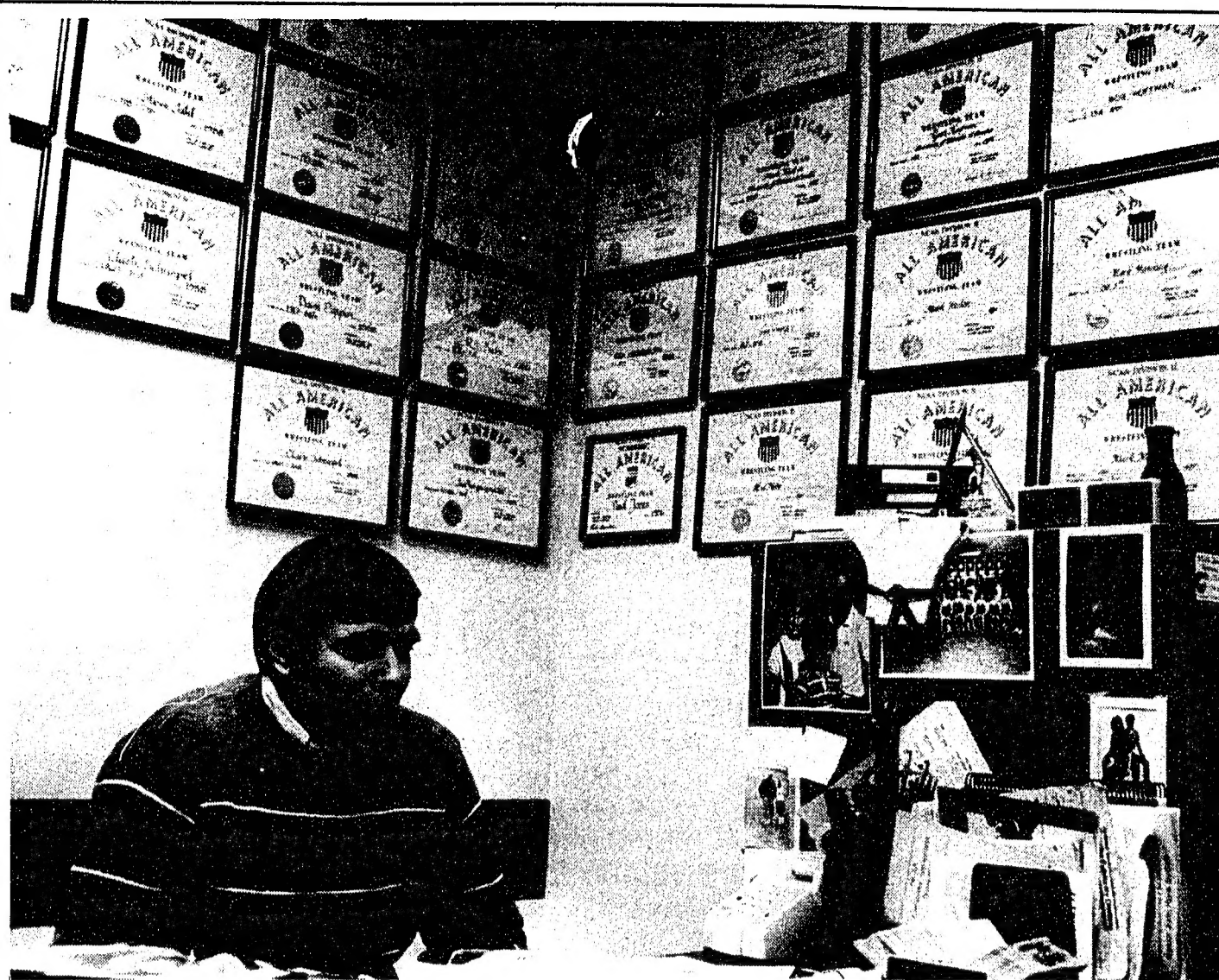
Oh Micky your so fine

Former UNO softball standout Micky Gehringer will be inducted into the UNO Athletic Hall of Fame March 16.

Gehringer will become the seventh woman to be entered into the Hall of Fame and the 40th member overall.

The former slugger holds the record for the highest batting average in a season for the Lady Mavs with a .430 mark. She is also first in career runs scored with 88.

Gehringer was a member of the 1975 UNO team which won the national women's softball championship.



-- ERIC FRANCIS

UNO wrestling coach Mike Denney's office is wall papered with All-American plaques. Denney's Mavs enter the North Central Conference tournament Feb. 24 as the top seed.

From six-student school to UNO

Denney: 'This could be the year'

COACHES CORNER: FOURTH IN A SERIES ON OMAHA COACHES

BY DAVID JAHR

They let school out to see it.

The students of Neligh High School, in 1957, left classes to gather around it in the gym. No one dared step on the first Resalite wrestling mat in the area with street shoes on.

It was one of those events you don't forget, and one of Neligh's students that year, Mike Denney, remembers.

Denney, in his 11th year coaching UNO wrestling, said before Neligh bought the mat, the high school team wrestled on a canvas mat with a tarp cover thrown over it. He said once the Resalite mat was at school, everyone wanted to see if the advertisements about this wonder were true.

"They said that with Resalite you could drop an egg from the ceiling on it, and it wouldn't bust," Denney said.

So with hundreds of students gawking at the mat, a wrestler climbed to the ceiling egg in hand.

"The whole school was going 'ooohh, ahh,' and he dropped the egg," Denney said, hesitating before a smile gleamed from his face. "And it didn't break. Everybody was cheering about this mat."

Almost a quarter of a century later, Denney is no longer the farm boy who wore "store-bought clothes" only on occasion. Or the boy who drove a tractor or rode a horse to his one-room grade school.

Now, Denney is a 42-year-old man with a list of athletic achievements that could easily wall paper his entire office in the Fieldhouse. But he reserves that space for his wrestlers. Space that is running out.

The color of the wall, behind Denney's cluttered desk, is barely distinguishable

because of the 49 plaques that proudly hang on it. These plaques honor UNO wrestlers who have earned All-American status. Seven of them were national champions.

There is room, however, across his office for five trophies to stand one in front of the other. These trophies, each close to four feet tall, were won by UNO teams that finished in the top three of NCAA Division II wrestling. Like last season, for instance, when the Mavs finished third in the country.

Although Denney has been close, his list of achievements is missing the one title every team guns for: a national championship.

This season, he may be as close as he's been. UNO has entered the North Central Conference tournament as the top seed before, but Denney said this may be the year of the gold.

The difference between the Mavs, ranked No. 2, and Central Oklahoma State, the top ranked team, is one point's worth of riding time.

That's what beat UNO last weekend when they faced the Broncos. The Mavs went into the heavyweight match with a one-point lead. Central Oklahoma State won the meet after their heavyweight decisioned UNO's Dan Carriker with 1:39 riding time.

Denney said his wrestlers realized after the dual that a national title is not beyond reach.

"This could be the year," Denney said. But he added a national title is not the team's goal.

"It's not going to come down to the team

that sets the goal to win the national championship. It's going to come down to the team that performs their best," he said.

Peak performance is the only goal Denney sets for his team. He said superfluous goals like winning the conference or the national crown sets an athlete up for failure.

"Our goal is not to win the conference championship. Our goal is to perform well," Denney said. "When you think about it, to be able to go out and take your abilities and make the most of them every time is the highest of goals. Not very many people can do it."

Besides, Denney said circumstances often arise that can ruin an athlete's goal and lead to disappointment.

"What happens a lot of the time is there are certain things you can't control, like an injury," he said. "The only thing you can control is your performance, you can't control what an official is going to call. Are you going to base your self esteem and happiness on whether you win that match?"

But don't be misled. Denney understands the reality of winning.

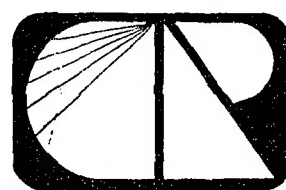
"I tell you what, though, we wouldn't have a wrestling program here if we didn't win. But I don't want to get into that. I think by good performance, some of those things fall into place."

Denney said he holds fond memories of the quiet, peaceful life on a farm. He also remembers one of his greatest academic achievements as one of six students in his grade school. Denney graduated the top of his eighth grade class.

"I was the only one in my class," Denney said.

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Nominations will be received until the
20th of each month.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS RESULTS INDOOR SOCCER

FEB. 4

Disorganized Crime vs. SKLG — tie 1-1
Beernuts vs. NEWBYS — 0-1

FEB. 5

SIG EPS vs. Lambda Chi Alpha — 2-0
Sheepherders vs. PIKES A — 1-2
LIVERPOOL vs. Pikes B — 2-0

BASKETBALL

FEB. 4

OMAHA M'RYMOUNT vs.
Gators' Boys — 76-51
SONS OF MOSO TATUPA vs.
Phi Slatma Jamma — 77-67
THE BOYS vs. XXX — 105-62
BUNDY'S vs. Something Awesome — 76-30

FEB. 5

THE BOYZ vs. Dockers — 88-53
ZONE BUSTERS vs. GT's — Forfeit
JAPBT vs. Potato Heads — 78-62

FEB. 6

ERADICATORS vs. BLT — 60-29
HUSKERS BAR vs. Pickups — 88-64
BRICKLAYERS vs. 4 Idiots & Me — 66-53



Underwater:
Thoughts from an Oxygen-deprived Mind

by Jon Levin

Water Waves Inter-views Todd Samland, Program Director for the Maverick Masters Swim Program. The interviewer is Barb Bluestone.

Barb: Todd Samland has been director of the UNO Masters swimming program since 1982. Beginning with six swimmers, the program now boasts participation over 200 swimmers from ages 20-60. I caught up with Todd at the Redick Grill in downtown Omaha.

Todd, you must be really proud of the participation rates you've been able to establish in the landlocked state.

Todd: I'm really not responsible, Barb. I'm just riding the personal fitness wave. I'm a surfer on the sea of leisure pursuits.

Barb: Well put, Todd, but aren't you being a little modest? As I understand it, you've managed to get people into the water at 6:30 am on a regular basis. These people could be sleeping at that hour.

Todd: Vanity, Barb, vanity. These people are swimming their way to better pectoral presentation... excuse me, Barb, I've been trying to catch the waiter's attention. Waiter! Yes, waiter, may I have another Campari with soda? My way, dash of bitters and a twist of lime.

Waiter: Right away Mr. Samland.

Todd: Barb, what would you like?

Barb: Um, oh, I don't know, I usually have a Coors Light, but it sounds like you might know something interesting to try.

Todd: Sure. Waiter, please bring her an El Presidente.

Waiter: With a dash of bitters, sir?

Todd: Yes, that's it, and use Haitian Barbencourt if you stock it, otherwise Meyers will be adequate.

Waiter: I'll be back shortly.

Barb: (Thinking to herself) Geez, from what his swimmers said in my background interviews, I thought that this guy was going to turn out to be a weebo granda. He's been around the block... modest, well-mannered, informed.

Todd, what kind of car do you drive... I mean... do you also drive... as will as swim, that is?

Todd: Yes, Barb, I drive, but that's not part of our Masters' activities.

Barb: Don't you find the growth of your program exciting? Doesn't it give you great pleasure to see people responding in such a healthful way to their universal responsibility to be healthy? I mean, doesn't it increase your pride in the human race to know that we are really not a world of coach potatoes?

Todd: (Todd thinks to himself) I should have checked her press credentials. You would have thought by now I could spot an aqua groupie. Where is my pack cigarettes? That usually turns them around.

Actually, Barb, I'm quite concerned about the future of the lane as the result of my coaching.

Barb: I'm surprised. How could that be?

Todd: Well, if you consider that my swimmers represent the cream of well-educated Omaha professionals, and if you further consider that not one of them can follow the simplest of directions without repitition, wouldn't you be worried?

Barb: What do you mean they can't follow directions. Maybe they can't hear you. Maybe you need a bullhorn.

Todd: Barb, I go up to swimmers in each lane and clearly tell them what I want them to do. Let me give you an example.

(Todd looks Barbara in the eyes and says...)

Three two hundreds pull (pause) the last 50 of each bilateral.

(Todd now changes his voice to mimic his swimmers)

Swimmer 1: Is that very last 50 bilateral of the last 50 of each 200???

Swimmer 2: Yeah, Todd, does that mean we do 550 swim and 50 pull, or 150 swim and 50 pull three times???

Swimmer 3: What did Todd tell us to do?

Swimmer 4: I think he said three 50's, swim, kick, pull.

Swimmer 5: Where's my pull-buoy?

Swimmer 6: Anyone bring bagels?

Barb: OK, Todd, I see that the job can get to you, but how does that translate into concern for the future of the palnet?

Todd: The President orders a nuclear missile launched against Moscow and then decides that it was a mistake and he tries to call it off.

(Beads of sweat begin to appear on Todd's forehead.)

The Joint Chiefs of Staff send a message to the grunts in the missile command center to call it off by destroying the missile in flight...

Grunt 1: O.K. we got 96 seconds guys, let's start the destruction sequence. Press the blue button twice... or was the blue switch once and the green button twice...

Grunt 2: No, it's the green switch once and the blue button twice... or was it the blue switch once and the green button twice...

Todd bolts up, excuses himself, slams a 20 on the table and runs out to a gray pickup truck, screeching off onto Dodge Street.

Barb sits there sipping her El Presidente.

The waiter thinks, "He's done that before. Oh, well. Biggest tipper in sandals I ever met!"

Paid Advertisement

Trussell gets down to business

By PATRICK RUNGE

Larry Trussell said there is more to being a dean than meets the eye.

Trussell, dean of the College of Business Administration (CBA), said the college does more than schedule classes, advise students and conduct registration.

"You try to avoid getting bogged down in those things," he said. "Otherwise you don't get on to doing what I view as more important, such as providing leadership to the college."

Trussell has been at UNO since 1974, when he took the post of associate dean. He was promoted to dean five years later and has earned degrees in accounting and economics.

In assessing the college, Trussell said feedback from the community is vital.

"The businesses in this community have consistently told us that they view our college very positively," Trussell said. "Some have told us we are the best in the area."

He said another way to judge the importance of a program is professional accreditation.

CBA is accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Of 1,200 business schools in the country, only 250 have AACSB accreditation, Trussell said.

UNO's business college has been accredited since 1964.

According to Trussell, CBA's strengths lie in the students.

"First are the students," he said. "Certainly it is a strength of our college that it is so popular. Our student strength comes both from the number of students and the quality of the students."

Trussell said strong student demand gives a college enough flexibility to try new programs and approaches without worrying about losing a large percentage of students.

However, Trussell called the community CBA's greatest strength.

"The relationship between the Omaha business community and this university is very good," he said. "That relationship makes such a difference in what we can do in the college."

DEAN'S LIST

A LOOK AT COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS

Trussell said the local business community hires graduates, provides money, assists in making CBA's needs known to the State Legislature and provides a number of part-time teachers.

"This is an ideal place for a business college," Trussell said. "You can be integrated into a business community."

However, CBA will not be offering doctoral programs, Trussell said.

"Our faculty have resisted pursuing doctoral programs," Trussell said. "The main reason is that we don't have enough faculty to take care of the undergraduate students we have now."

"We have by far the biggest classes," he said, "and even with those big classes it still takes a lot of students an extra semester or an extra year to finish because they couldn't get into the classes they need."

Trussell said limited resources have caused the chronic shortage of advisors in the business college. He said there are currently two advisors for 3,700 students.

"I know we need more advisors," Trussell said. "But I have to make decisions based on priorities. My bias over the years has been to scrape together every dollar I can find to offer as many classes as possible."

Trussell said the 21st century is affected by what the business college is doing today.

"When we think of the curriculum in a business school right now," Trussell said, "you really try not to think too much about what business is doing today. You think about what students will



— ERIC FRANCIS

Business is his business, and business is good. College of Business Administration Dean Larry Trussell has been on the dean job at UNO for more than 10 years.

need as part of their educational foundation for their career.

"That career extends into the 21st century," he said. "Our students now will in ten years just be entering the prime time of their careers."

Meanwhile, back in the 20th century, what does the CBA dean have to look forward to?

"Meetings — lots of meetings."

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CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 2 issue of the Gateway, in "Diamonds" (p. 8), it was errantly reported that a benefit was held for the Creighton University Gay Student Society. The benefit was for UNO's Gay and Lesbian Student Organization. On Feb. 13, the photo outline on page 2 credits the Slam Dunk Contest as being part of Black History Month. Although advertised with Black History Month events, the contest was sponsored by Student Activities.

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Shuttle buses run every 15 minutes with the last bus departing campus at 2:30 p.m. for Ak-Sar-Ben. Access to Ak-Sar-Ben is through the 63rd and Shirley St. gate and the buses load/unload in the gate area.

The shuttle service is offered Monday through Friday only when classes are in session from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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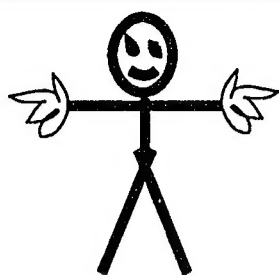
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Application deadlines vary with program.

BACK PAGE



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